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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Barbers' and Hairdressers' Cooperatives

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DATE DISTR. 21 Jul 1954

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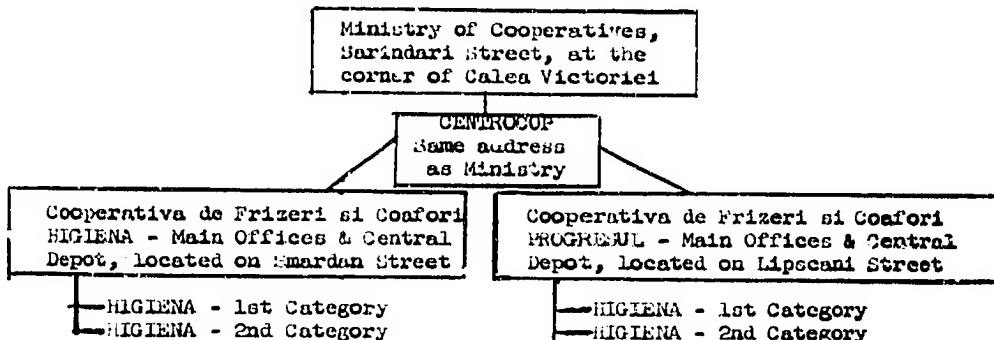
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1. Following is an organizational chart showing the relation of the Ministry of Cooperatives to the Cooperatives themselves.



Bucharest barbers' and hairdressers' stores, unified under the two aforementioned Cooperatives, are attached to the Ministry of Cooperatives and CENTROCOP, for administration and supplies. The City Sector People's Boards (Social and Sanitary Sections) have delegated powers over the Cooperatives, to control workers' rights and privileges, and sanitary conditions. Cooperative barber shops are of either 1st or 2nd Category, the others, located in the suburbs, are 2nd Category. In 1st Category barber shops, which are bigger than the others, there are two Responsibles - one for the barbers' section, the other for the hairdressers' section. Their salaries, and this holds true for all Cooperatives, are based on the monthly work norm fulfillment. Minimum monthly wages follow:

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- Responsible (of a Section) - lei 750
- Chief Responsible (of a large Barbers' and Hairdressers' Cooperative) -
lei 900
- Cashier - lei 450
- Specialized worker - lei 650
- Apprentice (Practicant) - lei 280
- Cleaner - Lei 365
- Hairdresser - lei 650
- Manicure - Lei 500
- Pedicure - lei 500
- Waiter (Cndulatoare) - lei 380
- Apprentice Hairdressers - lei 300

2. "Until February 1953, all members of these Cooperatives ('membruli Cooperatorii'), were paid on a monthly norm basis. If the norm was not reached, salary deductions were made. In February 1953, this deduction system was changed, as wages became almost impossible. At that time, a minimum monthly wage was established. [The minimum wages are given above.] When the work norm is exceeded, workers receive a proportionate increase in monthly wage. According to the Statute of the Cooperatives, at the close of each fiscal year, every member of the Cooperatives is entitled to a proportionate share of the Social Capital. This has not taken place since 1952. Cooperatives Directorate has explained this by stating that investments are being made with the Social Capital, such as: opening of new shops, purchase of new equipment, reptirs, etc. All these Cooperatives are opened daily, except Sundays and Holidays, from 1700 - 2200 hours. On Sundays and Holidays, there are four or five barber's and hairdresser's shops opened in each City Sector, from 0700 - 1300 hours. All barbers' and hairdresser's shops have a 'Red Corner' and an 'Honor Picture Frame' (with the names of the best workers). There is also a small library (Biblioteca), in the same corner, with various Communist books and pamphlets for personnel use.
3. "Tipping is prohibited in Cooperative Barber Shops. There are signs on the walls to this effect; usually, there is also the following sign:

NU
 PRIMIM BACSIS
 SUNTEM COOPERATORI

which means 'We do not accept tips; we are members of Cooperatives'. However, everyone does accept tips, and the sign is usually presented with the 'NU' above the second line, thus reading: 'We do accept tips, we are not members of Cooperatives'. Prices in Cooperatives are listed below:

| | <u>Lei</u> | <u>1st Category</u> | <u>2nd Category</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| - Shave | 1.50 | 1.00 | |
| - Haircut | 2.50 | 2.00 | |
| - Massage [text reads 'friction'] | 3.00 | 2.50 | |
| - Manicure | 3.00 | 2.50 | |
| - Pedicure | 4.00 | 3.00 | |
| - Water-wave | 10.00 | 8.00 | |
| - Hair combing | 5.00 | 4.00 | |
| - Permanent wave | 25.00 | 22.00 | |

4. "Generally speaking, the personnel in Cooperative barber shops are now, at least since Spring 1953, more satisfied with their material conditions. (This does not apply to the former barber shop owners.) They receive relatively low salaries, but, with their tips, manage to live. In addition, they receive social insurance benefits, and have 21 days of annual leave, which they may spend in State Rest Centers (Case de Odigna) either by the sea, or in the mountains. Workers are

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entitled to the use of these Rest Centers only after six months of work. However, they may not take their wives or families with them.

5. "All other barber shops, privately owned, are attached to the City Sector People's Boards, Local Industry Section. There are, however, very few privately owned barber shops left, and, shortly, they will be totally absorbed by the two Cooperatives [see page one]. In my opinion, even these Cooperatives will become State Barber Shops. This seems to me to be a transition period, during which the State has required small tradesmen to join Cooperatives, to give them the illusion of sharing the Social Capital [sic]."
6. "No conversations are held in barbers' Cooperatives, as there are MSS informers among the personnel who report activities and discussion of patrons."

1. - end -

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